S-2T AIRTANKER



MANUFACTURER

Grumman Aerospace, Bethpage, New York.

ORIGINAL OWNER

U.S. Navy, 1958-1975; The S-2E/G carrier-based anti-submarine warfare airplane.

ACQUIRED BY CDF

In 1996, CDF acquired 26 S-2E/G planes from the Department of Defense. CDF is converting the planes to a fire fighting configuration and fitting them with modern, powerful turboprop engines. There will be 16 S-2Ts ready for service during the 2003 Fire Season. The completely reconditioned S-2Ts are faster, safer, more manuverable, and carry a larger retardant payload than the S-2A airtankers CDF has used since the 1970s. The S-2T airtanker is part of CDF's air program modernization efforts that will result in the safest and most efficient mix of aircraft to carryout the fire fighting mission. A combination of S-2Ts and S-2As will be used by CDF until a total of 23 S-2Ts replace all of the older S-2As by the 2004 Fire Season.

MISSION

CDF uses the S-2T and S-2A airtankers for fast initial attack delivery of fire retardant on wildland fires.

CREW

One pilot

PAYLOAD

1,200 gallons long-term fire retardant

SPECIFICATIONS

GROSS WEIGHT: 29,150 pounds CRUISE SPEED: 258 mph 4.5 hours WING SPAN: 73 feet

ENGINES: Two (2) Garrett TPE331-14GR turbine engines.

(1,650 horsepower each).



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